

THE MCGILL DAILY

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Fruity sex since 1911

Wednesday, November 13, 1991

Tenants to be booted out for factory expansion

by Dave Ley

An expansion of a factory in Rosemont is angering residents, who fear that they will have to cope with increased noise and pollution. Some could actually be evicted.

Machinerie Automatique Argo has applied for demolition permits to demolish eight housing units to make way for the expansion of their metal recycling plant.

Argo said the factory's extension will create jobs which benefit the community. But others argue it will destroy a primarily residential community that is slowly being encroached upon by industrial expansion.

"People are really mad," said Pierre Goyer, opposition city councillor for the Democratic Coalition of Montréal (DCM).

"This is the some of the cheapest housing in an essentially residential area."

"I have lived in this area for 23 years, I don't want to move out," said Pierrette Paquin. She has lived next to the factory for 14 years, and is now facing the prospect of eviction.

"What they are going to do will destroy the entire neighbourhood, right now. The noise, smell, and pollution are enough," Paquin said.

"The factory right now has caused quite a bit of strain on the community."

She said if the expansion is completed the Argo factory would run seven days a week, night and day.

An Argo representative, who wanted to remain unnamed, dismissed Paquin's concerns.

"It has been 22 years since this company has operated here, and none of the residents have complained until now."

She said the evictions were "not a big thing, besides Argo is still considering the decision to expand."

Argo has a reputation for inconsiderate behaviour, said Thibeault. "They showed no respect for the housing committee, and they have put a lot of pressure on the residents to move out," said Thibeault.

Paquin also said she had little faith Argo will build new housing units.

"I don't trust them. They promised to fix up the damage done from all the factory's vibrations and noise," she said, while pointing to cracks along the wall and a portion of the ceiling which had only received minor repairs.

To obtain the approval from City Hall two years ago, Argo originally promised to build eight new housing units for displaced tenants, said Anne Thibeault, member of the Housing Committee of La Petite Patrie.

When no new buildings were

constructed, the city pulled back its support and revoked Argo's permission to expand.

But the city's decision against the project was overturned last month when Argo lobbied the executive committee, arguing the plant expansion would help the neighbourhood.

"This new expansion will create 20 new jobs," said the Argo official, "this will be an economic benefit to the community."

But many doubt how much of an economic benefit the expansion will bring. Critics also stress the environmental impact of a larger factory in the neighbourhood.

"The arguments used by Argo are pretty shaky," said Goyer, "yet still the city was swayed by the lure of new jobs."

"Argo still has not completed its reports on job creation or impact on the environment that it promised to do."

Paquin said little metal bits are periodically spewed from

the factory. They damage roofs, cause flat tires to bicycles and cars and are a significant safety hazard,

said Paquin.

"The city based its decision to let Argo go ahead solely on what Argo

told them," said Thibeault, "they have not paid enough attention to what others are saying."



Rosemont neighbourhood menaced by city decision to allow industrial expansion.

Student federation rejects upstart mag

by Fiona McCaw

A student-affiliated travel agency has decided to end distribution of the commercial magazine *Looking Up*.

Travel Cuts, a travel agency located on many Canadian university campuses, is owned by the Canadian Federation of Students (CFS). Student newspapers and Canadian University Press (CUP) have been lobbying CFS to end distribution of *Looking Up* from Travel Cuts offices.

The Travel Cuts board of governors made the decision to end the magazine's distribution two weeks ago.

Travel Cuts also has an agreement with *Looking Up* publisher Glenmont Publications to publish the travel agency's magazine, the *Traveller*. But at the same meeting Travel Cuts also decided to let this contract lapse when it runs out at the end of the year.

Jocelyn Charron, of CFS-services said that the decision was motivated by the need to protect the advertising base of student papers.

"*Looking Up* wasn't supposed to affect [student papers'] advertising revenue] and it did," said Charron.

"*Looking Up* is not really a student publication," said Charron, "It is a matter of principle for CFS not to encourage the magazine and to let the advertising go to CUP."

Charron also said CFS wanted to make it clear it was not affiliated with Glenmont Publications.

"The way it was portrayed on stands in campus, it looked as though *Looking Up* was a CFS publication, which was just not the case. *Looking Up* doesn't reflect the things that CFS is interested in and does."

Travel Cuts has already removed the name "*Looking Up*" from boxes distributing the *Traveller*, and has sent a letter instructing Glenmont Publications not to misrepresent their relationship with Travel Cuts.

CUP president John Montesano welcomed Travel Cuts' decision, but felt that it was still inadequate.

"They are still putting advertising in *Looking Up*," said Montesano, "They are still supporting this magazine. I'd like to see a little more action."

He also criticised the lack of student input in the deal between Glenmont publications and Travel Cuts.

"Travel Cuts and *Looking Up* signed the deal without communication with CFS or CUP," said Montesano. "Even if it has a minimal effect, students should still have input on this kind of stuff."

Looking Up has been vigorously opposed by student newspapers across Canada, including the *Daily* and the *Tribune*. They argue the privately-owned magazine has taken away advertising revenues that would otherwise have gone to stu-

dent papers.

According to Wendy Fredricks of Campus Plus, the advertising cooperative associated with CUP, CUP papers have already lost approximately \$250 000 of advertising revenue. Many companies which previously advertised with CUP papers withdrew their ads from CUP, and placed ads in the first issue of *Looking Up*.

Several of the companies in question specifically told Campus Plus they withdrew the advertising in favour of *Looking Up*. They include Upjohn pharmaceuticals and Carter Products, the makers of Trojan Condoms.

"Just the fact that these companies have been with us and are not any more is a pretty good indication of how *Looking Up* is hurting us," said Fredricks.

Looking Up publisher Monte Perlman challenged the view that *Looking Up* is actually hurting advertising in student papers. He said Glenmont publications has not received \$250 000 from the companies that previously advertised in student papers.

The advertisers may have had other reasons than *Looking Up* to withdraw advertising from student papers, he said.

He said *Looking Up*'s share of the student advertising market is only six per cent. Because Campus Plus' share is 50 per cent, *Looking Up* does not pose a serious threat to the

advertising base of student papers, he claimed.

"We're not a threat in terms of what's out there," said Perlman. "We're not competing with student papers. We're bringing in people new to the market."

Several universities have ceased distribution of *Looking Up* on their campuses, including Concordia, York, Carleton, Dalhousie, and Calgary.

The University of Manitoba recently joined them by voting on November 6 to stop distribution of both *Looking Up* and *Campus Canada*, another glossy magazine.

Other Universities have agreements keeping off-campus publications from being distributed on campus.

Students' Society will vote some time in the next three weeks on whether to ban *Looking Up* from campus.

There is no valid contract between Glenmont publications and Students' Society said Students' Society VP Internal Alex Johnson. Tricia Silliphant, an employee of Students' Society, did not have the authority to sign the contract with Glenmont.

"It is not an official contract," said Johnson. "It is something very informal signed between Tricia and Glenmont."

"We do not have a policy at this stage about outside publications coming in," said Johnson.

Women are invited to this week's Daily Women's Caucus meeting at 16h Friday in Union 107.

New news writers and old ones too are invited to a meeting today at 17h, Union B-03.

Errata

In "Arts and Science magazine threatened" (*Daily*, November 4th), *Pillar* managing editor Siân Jones was erroneously identified as "he". In fact, Siân Jones is a woman. The *Daily* regrets the error.

The *Daily* also regrets misspelling *Pillar* editor Rebecca Levi's family name.

J.K. Radomski, co-redacteur-en-chef du journal étudiant "The Concordian" ne reçoit aucun salaire, seulement James Kaylor. Le *McGill Daily* regrette l'erreur.

In "Support Services for eating disorders" (*Daily*, October 30th), the telephone number for Outremangeurs Anonymes was provided. In fact, this number is for a french-speaking group. The english-speaking group can be reached at 733-6167.

Events

McGill Young Alumni present a seminar entitled "How to manage your money." Coping with today's finances, reducing taxes, etc, will be the subject of a discussion with McNeil Mantha Inc.-type Denis Gamache and Louis Chicoine of Idées-Plus Financial Planning. Leacock 232. 18h. Info: 398-4534. FREE

The World Federalists in cooperation with the Montréal Peace Network present McGill's Dean of Law Prof. Yves-Marie Morissette. She will speak on "Nationalism and International Law." Unitarian Church Hall, 3415 Simpson. 19h30. Info: 844-7268. FREE

McGill Improv will perform sans-arret in a benefit for Sun Youth, the community support group. 24 hours of completely improvised "laughs and lunacy" will begin today at 22h in the Alley. Canned goods and non-perishable goods will be accepted at the door. Info: 465-9164.

McGill Student Pugwash presents a slide show and discussion on La Grande II, the hydro-electric plant that threatens the lifestyle of the Cree Nation of northern Québec. Burnside Hall 305. 19h. Info: 286-0659. FREE

"The Right to Non-Violence: Law, Power and Women's Lives" An Annie MacDonald Langstaff workshop. 12h — 14h. In the Moot Court, Chancellor Hall. 3644 Peel. Info: 281-5523.

Women's Union meets this Friday at 17h to plan its commemoration of the December 6 massacre at Ecole Polytechnique.

Correction from Health Services STD Contest: "The virus that causes AIDS" clue is incorrect. The correct clue is: "The virus that is linked to AIDS."

Croatians lament international slugheadedness

by Robin LeBaron

Two Croatian students requested international support for their besieged hometown in a brief talk at McGill Monday.

Nina Obuljen and Natko Bitic, residents of the besieged Adriatic port city of Dubrovnik, said Western governments need to take active steps to help end the current war in Croatia.

"There are many European centres for human rights, but they can do nothing without their governments," Bitic said.

Bitic said international support has so far been weak. "In some parts of the world people obviously care more about animals than so many dead civilians," he said.

Obuljen said diplomatic pressure and trade embargos are the first important things Canada and other nations can contribute. Later peacekeeping — or peacemaking — forces will be important, she said.

Obuljen and Bitic are currently enrolled at the University of Zagreb. Together with 83 other students they organized a hunger strike to draw international attention to the situation in Croatia. Ten students have been on strike since October 7.

The two students are travelling through North America to raise awareness of the situation in Croatia. They spoke with Canadian MP Lloyd Axworthy several days ago. Axworthy was "encouraging", according to Obuljen.

Obuljen said the Canadian parliament would discuss the situation in Croatia extensively next Monday.



day.

The students also spoke at the United Nations and met with US Senator Albert Gore last week.

The students denounced the Yugoslav army's blockade of Dubrovnik, and its invasion into other regions of Croatia.

"The Serbians are not conquering, because [if they were] they would take things they could use," Bitic said. "Instead they are destroying everything — Hotels, churches, monuments: everything."

The Yugoslav army, dominated by old guard communists and eth-

nic Serbians, has been besieging Dubrovnik for 44 days. Shells have fallen on the old sections of the city, an important tourist destination which attracts over 200 000 visitors annually said Bitic.

Obuljen said she had heard over the phone that earlier the same morning shells had fallen on her house, destroying her bedroom.

In other regions, the Yugoslav army is still advancing into Croatian territory.

The audience at the talk discussed Serbia's claim that the army is acting to protect the Serbian mi-

nority in Croatia.

"Croatia will guarantee the rights of the Serbian minority," Obuljen said. "The Croatian government is always asking foreign observers to come."

Another member of the audience noted that the Serbs were violating the rights of Albanian and Hungarian minorities within Serbia.

The talk ended on a heated note as a Serbian member of the audience angrily denounced the students for distorting information about Croatian history.

Rosemont co-ops delayed until 1995

by Jon Desbarats

A low-cost housing project promised in the 1990 municipal elections has been delayed four more years, and citizens in the city's north-end are mad as hell.

In the face of angry community groups, the city has blamed the delay on tough financial times.

"Just like every family and business in Montreal, we have had to make budgetary adjustments," said MCM councillor for Rosemont Michel Lemay.

The city's investment plan was recently cut by \$50 million, and Lemay said that the neighbourhood is fortunate to be receiving the project at all.

Plans to build a new municipal court and a civic computer centre were also cancelled in a recent flurry of cutbacks.

Lemay announced the project's five-year delay last week at the last meeting of the neighbourhood's District Advisory Council.

The city had originally prom-

ised the low-cost units in 1986. During the 1990 municipal elections, councillors for the riding renewed the promise for the housing complex. Last week's announcement pushed the neighbourhood's wait to nine years.

Despite financial strains, the municipal government had enough money for extravagant expenses such as a lighting system for the Mont-Royal cross, said Democratic Coalition

Party councillor Pierre Goyer. Goyer said the city spent \$23 million on renovations at city hall and \$3 million on granite sidewalks — cash which could have been better served on low-cost housing.

"The city has the wrong priori-

ties. The MCM administration has never been overly concerned with real local issues," said Goyer.

"They spend too much money on tourist attractions, parks and statues."

The first phase of the project, the construction of 100 low-rent housing units for senior citizens, was completed last month. But before the construction of the remaining 300 co-operative housing units can be constructed, the city must clear the site and install pipes and sewers. According to Lemay, the city workshop which stands on the site will cost \$40 million to relocate.

However, beyond the cost of re-

locating the city shops, the municipal government bears very little of the financial burden for the project.

Ninety percent of the funding for the housing project comes from the federal government.

Community members, aware that the majority of the money has been secured, have become frustrated with the city's incessant delays.

"There is a big need for low cost housing in that area. We would like to know why the city has chosen to postpone this project," said Cecile Arcand, a member of Societe Populaire d'Habitation Rosemont (SPHR).

The SPHR started working on the project in 1986, at which time the city said the location nearby Rosemont metro would be ready by 1990.

There is speculation the city has not even secured an alternative landsite for the workshop.

"We don't think the land is ready. What other reason could there be for the delay," asked Arcand.

"The city has the wrong priorities. The MCM administration has never been overly concerned with real local issues."

McGill slammed on campus safety for women

by Karen Taylor

Women's conference discusses university policies on sexual harassment, sexual assault and walk-safe services

McGill's administration is much less open to taking assault seriously than most universities, women at the conference found.

"Women's safety is not a high priority [for the administration]," said Fiona Dellers of the McGill Women's Union. "No thought or planning goes into it."

McGill's safety programs are "a fairly pathetic effort compared to most other universities," agreed Kelly Gallagher-Mackay of McGill's Walk Safe Network (WSN).

Dellers and Gallagher-Mackay were among 50 representatives from university women's groups across eastern Canada. They met last Saturday at McGill to forge links and exchange strategies.

Over half the universities represented at the conference provide women leaving the campus with walk-home services run by the administration.

Some universities pay walkers up to \$10 an hour; have at least one permanent walk-safe coordinator; and provide services for several hours every night.

The student-run McGill Walk Safe Network leaves one area at one time and is staffed by volunteers.

"The way our Walk Safe Network operates now, we're saying we're responsible and committed to women's safety, but this certainly isn't the best way to do it," Gallagher-Mackay said.

Dellers agreed. "As we take safety measures into our own hands, we allow the university to renege on its responsibility for women's safety."

Women's groups from several other campuses said their university administrations often try to

claim sexual assaults do not take place, or tend to deny the seriousness of campus assaults.

The Dean of Students at Kings told a woman she wasn't really assaulted because she wasn't raped, according to a KWAC member.

And after the alleged gang-rape at UCCB President Hill simply warned other residence women "not to make the same mistakes she did."

Deans generally aren't required to report assaults to the police or to the student body, "putting us all at more risk" according to Karen Balcom of Dalhousie.

Women reported four assaults this fall to the administration at Kings, but other students did not find out about them until KWAC pressured the dean for information.

The Dean of Students should be required to report assaults to students and the police, said Gallagher-Mackay. She pointed out that students at McGill have no con-

fidence in the administration's way of dealing with assault.

No one has reported an assault to the Dean since July, while the Walk Safe Network alone has had eight reported.

Safety problems are sometimes increased by lack of clear sexual harassment and assault policies. University College of Cape Breton (UCCB) president Peter Hill is refusing to punish three men who allegedly gang-raped a woman in residence.

Hill justified his actions by saying there are no written rules of conduct, according to a member of the Kings Women's Action Committee (KWAC).

Women at the conference decided to begin a national survey to compile and publish statistics on assault to increase their bargaining power for women's services.

Clear university policies concerning sexual assault were a

common demand. Conference members agreed women should help implement the policies to ensure they meet women's real needs, instead of becoming public relations ploys.

McGill Women's Union members referred to last year's installation of emergency phones and the "mini-safety-audit" as examples of poor services installed without student input.

The administration spent \$10 000 on six emergency phones virtually no one knows about. The phones are hidden from view, "basically because of aesthetics," according to a university official.

The Walk Safe Network hopes to hold a campus safety audit to rectify the piecemeal attempt made by the administration last year.

"Unless the whole campus is audited at once by students the process is meaningless," said Gallagher-Mackay.



Inter-university conference on women's issues at McGill.

DAILY PHOTO: JANINE LUCE

McGill may be Macleans' number one, but on women's safety we lag far behind other Canadian universities, an inter-university women's conference charged last weekend.

Death threats at Queen's paper dismissed by police

by Kate Stewart

Women working for the Queen's University newspaper *Surface* received a death and rape threat last week.

"My first reaction to the threat was to be scared," said Christine Ling, a member of the editorial board at *Surface*.

"Then I felt really, really angry that somebody could hate someone for being female."

Police believe the threat was made in reaction to a recent issue of *Surface* about gay and lesbian pride week at Queens. Men and women both contributed to the issue, but only the names of the women involved were printed on the threatening letter.

The letter was made of cut-out newspaper words and read: "Surface: A message for the fucking feminist bitch dykes cunts. Congratulations! here's your politically correct death

notices were gunna rape u dykes bitch."

"No, that doesn't mean we're non-violent, in fact we will kill any and all feminists slowly. Yes we think all strate men are rapists. Suck all cocks. U silence us white men."

Ling was disappointed by the lack of concern shown by Kingston police. "The officer who investigated the complaint didn't seem to treat it very seriously. He asked us irrelevant questions and kept calling us 'girls'," she said.

The women at *Surface* haven't heard anything from the police since the threat was

reported. "They even suggested we deserved it," said Ling.

According to a *Surface* press release, one sergeant said: "I can understand why people

The police even suggested the death threats were no surprise. One police sergeant said: "I can understand why people were upset (over the gay and lesbian issue)."

were upset [over the gay and lesbian issue]."

The issue of *Surface* police believe sparked the death threat contained a poem with the lines "yes, we think all strate men are rapists/ (and dead men don't rape again)."

The staff of *Surface* feels the contents of the paper are irrelevant in the case. "The fact

[we] sit on an editorial board that has made controversial decisions should not impinge upon [our] right to safety and security," stated the press release.

The members of the paper did not go public with the threat immediately because they were advised not to by the police.

"We were also in a situation where we did not want to let him get away with it, but we didn't want to publicize his action either," said Ling.

"But it is something people should know about."

A public statement to other campus publications at Queen's was further delayed. The staff at *Surface* felt it would not be appropriate in light of the controversy over other women's issues at Queen's in the past.

The "No Means No" anti-rape campaign in 1989 sparked reactions. *Surface* editors said they did not want to see repeated.

THE MCGILL DAILY

COMMENT

Lawnmowers for the experts, ethics for everyone

A prominent scientist recently gave a worrisome speech on the dilemmas of technological development.

After describing the potential dangers and misuses of genetic engineering technology, she observed that our societies need to make important decisions.

These decisions, she suggested, should be the preserve of politicians and 'ethicists'.

'Ethicists', it seems, would be a professional group trained in the subtleties of ethical decision making. They would probably have extensive knowledge of both the particulars of some field of expertise and the broad sweep of Occidental ethical/moral traditions.

These people (so the speaker seemed to suggest) would hold some responsibility for making the difficult decisions about technology.

At first blush an 'ethicist' profession seems innocent, if not positively benign. It fits well with the bureaucratic idea that everything should be compartmentalized and tended to by specialists.

The ethicist's profession, presumably, would be based on the assumption that ethicists would be more qualified than the common throng to render ethical judgements.

The problem is that ethics is not a realm of life which can be specialized and professionalized like biochemistry or lawnmower maintenance.

Political democracy is founded on an ethical basis. The idea that all persons can and should take responsibility in governing their affairs assumes that people can think for themselves, without the intervention of paid professionals.

Career ethicists directly undermine the democratic ideal. If ethical decisions are left in the hands of the 'experts', a vital dimension of control over our lives will be lost to the rest of us.

Ethicists might eventually be entrusted to make all sorts of decisions now up for public debate. They could pass judgements on abortion, on hydroelectric development in James Bay, on the death penalty, on tuition fees, and so on. These issues could leave the public realm entirely, to be determined by professional ethicists in professional ethical centres like, say, the newly endowed Hydro-Québec chair in environmental ethics.

This isn't an argument against ethical debate. It's an argument against entrusting that debate to an elite, instead of leaving it within the public realm.

The idea that ethical decisions should be entrusted to an elite is an old one. But the issue has new urgency now, when influential neo-conservative think-tanks and politicians have legitimized an attack against the public political sphere and the transfer of power to politbureaucrats and technocrats.

The consequences have been profound and evil in Brazil, Chile, the Soviet Union and elsewhere. They could be worse here. Ethics must remain in the public realm as the concern of everyone.

Robin LeBaron

LETTERS

Other fights worth fighting

To the Daily:

Open letter to Sheryl Riley:

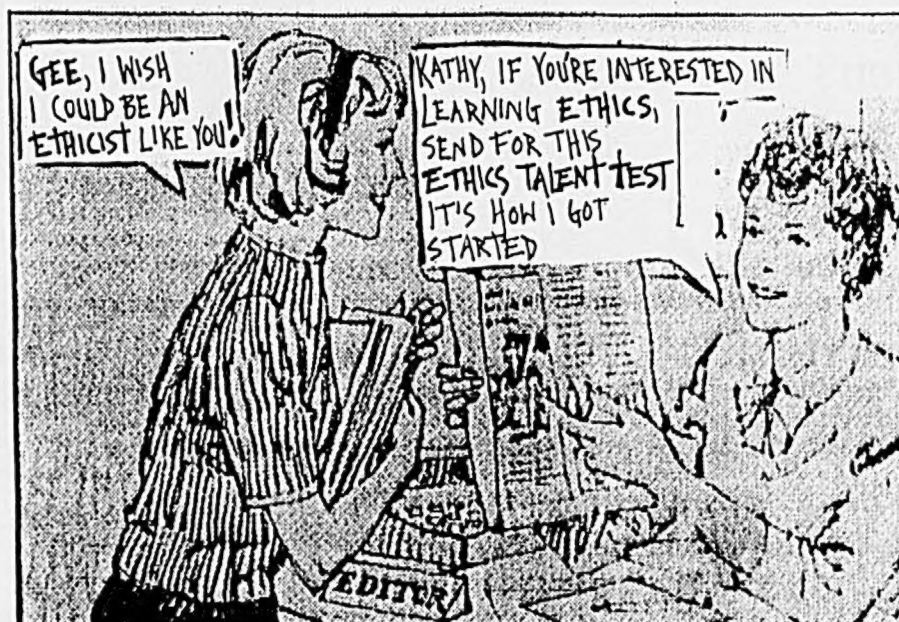
I'm sorry, but I'm having a real hard time believing that the smokers outside Redpath cafeteria bother you so much. It boggles my mind. You must not get out to bars very often, if you're so sensitive to smoke. Have you ever spent an evening in Gert's? Will Gert's be your next target?

The smoking rooms that were so conveniently located on each floor of McLennan library disappeared suddenly last winter. I miss them as much as you do. The luxuries I once took for granted (like chairs and

ashtrays) are now mere memories. I do not enjoy sitting in the ashes and butts that litter that hallway, but I have nowhere else to go. (Welcome to Montreal, where it is only warm enough to smoke outside for about two weeks of the year.)

If you are so determined to "do something about it", try this new angle: complain to the administration and DEMAND the return of designated smoking rooms. You could breathe easy, and I could destroy my own lungs in peace.

I must admit, I always thought that if I ever wrote a letter to the Daily it would be about sexism, racism or



homophobia... Instead, I write in defense of smokers. What a ridiculous issue to be debating. I can't believe I'm wasting my time and energy combatting Vigilante Non-Smokers, when there are so many other fights worth fighting. I feel silly, Sheryl. Don't you?

Anonymous
A distraught smoker

Frats love the Daily

To the Daily:

I feel the McGill Daily deserves some

credit for the increased interest in the McGill Fraternity and Sorority system.

In the comment section of a September issue of the *Daily*, appeared the title "Peering through the Haze." This article was meant to warn the McGill community of the perils of "rushing" a Fraternity or Sorority.

Well, it appears that it has done the exact opposite.

Membership in the Greek system has soared. 170 new Brothers and Sisters were recruited this fall, increasing the

Greek membership on campus to close to 900.

I feel that this increased interest is partially due to the excellent, biased reporting style of the *McGill Daily*. From now on, your articles which intend to bash the Greek system, will be welcomed with open arms.

Keep up the good work!

John Hiscox, President
Inter-Fraternity Council
Biology U3

HYDE PARK

Trip to El Salvador a show of solidarity

Opinion by Lisa Kowalchuk

This is a long overdue response to the Hyde Park written by Paolo Bilezikjian and Jorge Pasalacqua who criticized the recent McGill delegation to El Salvador as nothing more than "political tourism".

Bilezikjian's and Pasalacqua's tirade went unfairly overboard by casting the project in a completely negative light. Perhaps, since I was a member of the delegation, I can offer a more realistic appraisal of the aims and impact of our project.

To begin with, could there be such a thing as apolitical tourism? What would have been the symbolic impact, that is, in terms of our legitimization of the host regime, had we decided to spend the month in, say, Florida or Venezuela? Or if in El Salvador we had merely basked on the beach of Costa Del Sol, gone to the discos in the capital, maybe bought some trinkets from the old women outside the cathedral, but stayed away from any grassroots organizations? Some people do that.

Yes, we were "politically conscious". Our intention was above all political. We went with the aim of showing our support for the popular organizations in El Salvador, and to raise consciousness and assistance for them when we returned. I'm surprised that the two Latin American authors of the denouncement don't realize the

importance of showing solidarity with the popular sector — especially when a space for social movements, however minimal, has begun to open up.

Popular organizations like the ones we visited, which included teachers', students' and labour unions, rural and urban community assistance groups, and the country's non-governmental human rights commission, are particularly vulnerable to state repression. These groups seemed to welcome our presence as a momentary source of protection, and as a message that in the longer run, internationals would be watching out for them. At functions and rallies, our delegation and other foreign attendants were usually seated close to the front and centre, sometimes under a scorching sun, so that we would be obvious to the stoney faced, armed soldiers who looked on.

As for the visit by six of the delegates to the community of Las Minas, after which they were arrested and detained, the impact is mixed. Their objectives as participants in an anti-cholera campaign were worthy. Their arrest brought the attention of an admittedly sensation-seeking media, through which we were able to raise awareness about El Salvador.

But that excursion has also had grave consequences. It altered the life chances of Oscar Rivera, our devoted guide and friend who chose to accompany the six Canadians, and was detained along with

them. A former detainee and victim of torture, Oscar's life was threatened by his captors this time round. He has since applied for refugee status to Canada, and is waiting out the process in San Salvador.

The Las Minas excursion has also increased the profile of the people who provided our living quarters, surveillance of whom noticeably intensified during and after the crisis.

The delegation's original goals of public information sessions, and concrete cooperation with the people of El Salvador have begun to be realized since our return. To me, such projects are the most important way of giving something back to a generous, beleaguered, but optimistic people.

I would like to thank the McGill Post Graduate Students' Society, on behalf of Oscar Rivera, for their generous donation of \$500 toward his living expenses when he arrives. Also, all are invited to a fiesta organized by the Latin American Awareness Group at La Playa (4459 St. Laurent), on Friday, November 15, at 20h. There will be entertainment by local artist Jason Fowler and by the dance band, Pati Bambu. Donations of \$5 are requested. Proceeds will help to defray Oscar's living expenses. Anyone interested in making a tax-deductible donation towards his expenses can contact me, Lisa Kowalchuk, at 284-6242.

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Critics call city housing policy an empty shell

by Mark Antaki

Tempers did not flare at a panel discussion Monday concerning the Overdale affair and the city's housing policy. Housing activists and members of the ruling Montréal Citizens' Movement (MCM) met to judge the city's performance on housing issues.

The MCM emerged from the discussion relatively unscathed, although housing activists made it clear that most people had lost faith in the party's integrity and credibility.

Pierre Gaudreau of the Front d'Action Populaire en Réaménagement Urbain (FRAPRU) said "the MCM has adopted good policies—even great policies, but we do not think that they are serious about defending the housing rights of the poor."

Gaudreau said the MCM has had several positive policies. It has defended the poor's right to public housing and it has bought, renovated and distributed housing to co-ops and low income housing. But he said rents often increase as a result of the city's renovation efforts. "Often rents are not affordable for tenants who were living there," added Gaudreau.

Robert Craig, a former Overdale resident, stressed that the role of municipal government is "absolutely central to community concerns." Craig said that far too often, the MCM represents the interests of powerful elites and neglects the platform that brought them to power.

The neighbourhood containing Overdale Street was the last affordable-rent district in the downtown core, west of St. Laurent. After an 18-month legal battle, tenants were forcefully evicted by riot police. The city signed a secret deal with condo-



John Gardiner, big wig in the ruling Montréal Citizens' Movement.

minium developers, promising them the site as long as tenants were relocated to another building.

Craig said the MCM abandoned its role as a representative of the people. He criticized the decision-making process which allowed the

demolition of the buildings and the forced eviction and relocation of tenants living on Overdale.

"Our opinions for what we wanted for our community didn't matter," he said. "Because Overdale was a low-income area, [the com-

munity] was deemed unnecessary."

He said all the important decisions were made "in private between [the government and business] elites for personal gain."

Gaudreau agreed. He said the MCM's secret dealings with developers was precisely why the Civic Party was thrown out of power. The MCM beat out the Civic Party in 1986, with a platform that included increased legislation favouring tenants rights.

Executive committee member John Gardiner said the city's decision on Overdale was the best option to "protect the tenants." Gardiner said if the buildings had not been demolished, they probably would have been converted into condominiums or renovated. He said either one of these options would have brought about a rent increase, harming tenants on Overdale.

However, Craig said relocated tenants are paying higher rents than what they had paid on Overdale. He said they are on rent strike to keep the rents affordable.

Gaudreau also said that the city never attempted to integrate the condo development into the existing community even though the option was feasible and would have "protected the tenants."

Gaudreau said the decision taken by the MCM had much less to do with how best to protect the tenants and more with a choice of whose interests to represent: the community's or the developer's.

Districts get no say

Discussions of Overdale led panel members to debate community empowerment and local neighbourhood councils.

Surprisingly, both Gardiner and Gaudreau agreed that a strong central government was required to carry out effective policies.

Gaudreau said the advantage of a strong and centralized municipal government is its lobbying power at the provincial and federal levels.

But Gaudreau said he was disappointed with the city's "polite" lobbying of the provincial government concerning the welfare reform act.

The MCM was brought to power in 1986 under the banner of community consultation and decentralization of civic power.

But many of the party's original supporters were disappointed with the MCM's lack of action on these promises.

Panel moderator Brendan Weston said that the MCM has done some pretty bad things, "but what makes it worse is their hypocrisy."

In 1987 the city was divided into nine separate units in order to decentralize the administration of city services.

Weston said District Advisory Councils (DACs) were created by the city in each of the nine units "as an afterthought."

The purpose of DACs is to solicit opinions about city policy from the community. Contentious issues are occasionally referred to DACs for citizens' input, but DACs are without formal power.

Jeanne Wolfe, director of McGill's School of Urban Planning and board member of the city's housing corporation, described the decision to divide the city into arrondissements as "stupid" because of the arbitrary nature of the division.

She cited the lumping together of Pointe St. Charles and St. Henri into the same administrative unit as one example.

Weston said more decentralization of power is desirable even though a strong central government should have authority on key issues.

He said that some kind of central force must exist to allow for equity in different neighborhoods, and to prevent the "not in my back yard" syndrome.

Weston also said that instead of completely decentralizing the system, governments should be held more accountable and people should have the "power of recall."

Gardiner said he was once in favour of local councils, but he was now opposed to the idea.

He insisted that the present councils are "not an experiment in direct democracy."

— Mark Antaki

Campus safety for women staff a major issue in talks

Strike by York T.A.'s averted

by Doug Saunders
TORONTO (CUP)

York University has reached an agreement with part-time professors and teaching assistants, narrowly averting a strike vote.

But the agreement signed two weeks ago was a one-year agreement instead of the usual two-year settlement.

"Normally the administration make it a two-year agreement and they make it sweet enough so that we agree," said Doug Allen, a Canadian Union of Education Workers (CUEW) researcher.

"This was not very sweet."

The union won a 6.6 per cent pay increase.

The increase was an improvement on the administration's original offer of 5.8 per cent, but still short of the 7.5 per cent average increase won in June by full-time professors.

Scott Forsythe, a member of the CUEW strike support committee, said the increase is still unsatisfactory to some union members.

"While it's an adequate wage increase, it's just barely keeping up with inflation, if that."

"We want to emphasize that this is still under discussion."

Campus safety was a major issue in this year's negotiations after a CUEW study revealed that 75 per cent of female employees are unwilling to work at night for safety reasons.

The union negotiated clauses in the collective agreement guaranteeing workplace safety and a \$50 000 grant for emergency phones.

The administration refused all CUEW demands for employment equity and affirmative action hiring, promising only to follow existing guidelines.

Allen said the union will watch the administration closely.

Contracting out to temp profs

The agreement was to be ratified by CUEW membership at a meeting held yesterday.

The biggest sticking point during the three-month talks was resolved once the administration agreed to maintain the full-time conversion program, which offers full-time job openings to qualified part-time professors.

But Paula O'Reilly, the administration's chief negotiator, said that does not mean full-time positions will necessarily become available.

"We've agreed not to end the program. We hadn't even tabled its termination," she said.

"But it's certainly an understanding that there are no guarantees that appointments will be available."

Allen said that the university was unwilling to expand the conversion program, and may be planning to

eliminate it.

"The conversion program may be something the university is trying to slow down and end without as drastic a move as cutting it," he said.

Both parties expect next year's talks to be more difficult in the wake of almost \$1 million in cuts to York's 1991-92 budget announced last month by the Ontario government. This year's agreement was possible only because of internal savings obtained in the negotiations, O'Reilly said.

The university agreed to stop hiring temporary professors from off-campus and the savings helped finance the improved wage increase.

Such savings will not be possible next year, Forsythe said.

"While there is a sense that this year's agreement is satisfactory, no one's lowering their guard."

Animal rights under attack

Cultural paternalism against First Nations

Viviane Weitzner

Antagonism and mutual recrimination has marked the dialogue between animal rights activists and First Nations peoples and their supporters.

The debate was further stirred in a recent lecture at McGill by Harvey Feit, president of the Canadian Association of Anthropology.

Feit, a critic of the animal rights side, deconstructed the symbols both groups use, in an effort to explain the fundamental differences between them.

Drawing on first hand experiences among the James Bay Cree and conversations with both Cree and animal rights supporters, Feit isolated symbols which represent each side of the debate — the bear, and the pup and mother seal.

The image of the pup and mother seal was used during animal rights campaigns to generate public outrage against the seal hunt.

According to Feit, this symbol represents a paternalistic attitude on the part of animal rights activists toward both the Cree and animals.

On the other hand, he said, the bear is a more accurate image, often used by First Nations groups which oppose the animal rights movement.

The bear

The bear is a key animal species,



Feit said. It is not only hunted, but it also has the potential to kill human beings. Because of this, the bear has an integrated and reciprocal relationship with people.

James Bay Cree hunters believe not only that humans love animals, but that animals love humans. Animals, humans, the spirits and God are spiritually interconnected, he said.

"The Cree can hunt animals as a truly moral spiritual act and use animal bodies in order to survive."

Animals give themselves to humans in an act of love, to ensure the survival of the collective universe they share. When a hunter kills an animal, or receives an animal as a gift, to use Cree terminology, he or she takes on responsibility for that animal and shows respect for the animal's soul by praying for it and requesting the animal to be reborn.

Pbaghtesemegeeg (Little Wolf) Plourde, a member of the Micmac Nation, agrees with Feit's analysis of First Nations symbols.

"The bear is a strong, spiritual protector," said Plourde, information officer of the Native Friendship Center in Montréal.

"Native peoples respect animals as equals, not as pets. Animals belong in nature, and we honour nature's gift."

Feit also argued that the image used by the animal rights supporters — that of the pup and mother seal — is ineffective, because most

people haven't had first-hand experience with this relationship. It symbolizes a paternalistic attitude towards animals. They are not to be valued for their utility to humans, but in and of themselves.

According to Feit, the ironic result of this logic is that by regarding animals as children, humans must leave animals alone in order to avoid dominating them.

Glen Cooper, of the Ottawa office of the Grand Council of the Cree, said it is important to respect and understand other people's ways of life.

"You shouldn't dictate another person's lifestyle. No one should feel sorry for what they believe in," he said.

The pup and mother seal

Feit's approach was not without controversy. Toby Morantz, a McGill Anthropology professor who has studied First Nations cultures, criticized Feit's emphasis on symbols for being too general and non-empirical.

"It is too convenient in terms of models," she said, adding that Feit had fallen into the trap of encasing complex issues "into neat, little packages."

In a discussion after the lecture, several members of McGill for the Ethical Treatment of Animals (META) said the pup and mother

seal image is 10 years old and is no longer even used.

The pup and mother seal image has been replaced by images of "ugly" animals such as pigs and other farm animals to raise awareness, one META member said. "The focus on fur animals and farm animals is expanding."

But symbols must be analyzed from all sides, another member said.

"The mother and pup seal image tells more about the audience than about the animal rights activists involved. Cute animals are used as a market ploy to affect the emotions," the META member said.

"Animal rights supporters hope that by identifying with the strong natural family bond that exists within nature, people will broaden their horizons to

recognize the cruelty and suffering that millions of animals must endure."

Various animal rights groups have different policies on the issue. Some may not condone or tolerate any animal killing, while others like META focus strictly on reducing the suffering that animals are subjected to by humans.

Among First Nations people there are also differences in opinion about the treatment of animals. The Native/Animal Brotherhood is a Guelph-based First Nations group which opposes the fur trade and claims to help animals.

"For 300 years the Native people have been the tools of the fur trade," said Paul Hollingsworth, spokesperson for the Native/Animal Brotherhood.

"Once we were one with Mother Earth and all her creatures. It's time we listened to the animal's voices again, instead of trading in their blood. Fashion shouldn't come between brothers."

"Hopeless victims"

The crux of Feit's argument is that animal rights supporters treat Cree hunters like they treat animals, as permanent children — or children of nature. The Cree remain under the domination of the white people, however benevolent.

By casting First Nations peoples as hopeless victims of the fur trade,

animal rights supporters deny them responsibility for the effects of the trade and for their own conditions of life, said Feit.

"The consequence of the view that Indians are historical victims is to portray their hunting ways of life as artifacts of the past and illusory to continue to pursue in the modern world," he said.

Feit also chastized the paternalistic attitude that the Cree way of life should reflect white society's. "Sympathy creates the colonial civilizing model of social progress that requires Indians to survive by becoming like us."

But according to Morantz, it is not animal rights supporters who treat First Nations peoples like children. It is the government.

"Government policies have created most of the problems with legislative racism," she said.

Louise Chenevert, a local animal rights activist, agreed.

"The government tells them where or where not to buy cigarettes, which land they can or cannot have. The government acts as a caretaker," said Chenevert.

"It also keeps the Natives under control by subsidizing them if they work in the fur trade. Most Natives opt to work in fur because it is the only way they know of making money."

Discourse of reconciliation

The rift between animal rights supporters and James Bay Cree hunters is based not only on the opposing views about animals, Feit said. It is also based on the inherently different discourses the two groups use to talk about animals, he said.

Animal rights supporters are mostly white middle-class people who discuss animal issues in an urban setting. The cultural symbols they use to discuss animal issues create an obstacle in their understanding of the hunting lifestyle of the James Bay Cree, Feit argued.

He said that if the animal rights supporters momentarily drop their culturally-encoded discourse, then they could experience the interconnectedness of animals, humans, the world, the spirits and God. This experience will help them understand the Cree hunters' relationship with animals, he said.

But there is hope for a reconciliation between animal rights and First Nations peoples.

Eric Loring, a Master's student in McGill's Geography department, considers himself an animal rights supporter. He also has spent much time in the north with wild animals and First Nations peoples.

"One cannot help but think that killing a life is morally wrong," he said. "But my moral feelings were outweighed by the vital necessity of Natives to hunt in order to survive."

"I would like to see animal rights people and Native people fighting on the same side," Loring said. "It has happened in the past with environmentalists and Natives."

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Feminist Handbook launched at Concordia

by Ita Kendall

MONTREAL (CUP) — Feminism is often an unknown or misunderstood concept, especially for first-year students.

But now, learning about feminism, at least in the faculty of Fine Arts at Concordia, is as easy as picking up the Feminist Handbook.

The Feminist Handbook is the product of a group of women students and faculty in Concordia's Fine Arts department who felt there was a need to introduce students to women's perspectives.

The book was launched last Thursday and features pieces by six women, on everything from sexual harassment to a feminist perspective on art education.

The women, members of the Permanent Review Committee on the Status of Women in the Faculty of Fine Arts, decided to publish the book over 11 months ago.

"Our basic concern was to talk to students in a language they could understand about the issue of feminism, especially in this faculty," said Corrine Corry, a contributor to the handbook and a faculty member on the committee.

"It is a sort of demystification," said Janice McLaren, the committee member in charge of distributing the handbook.

"It is important that students understand [feminist] terms, so that they feel comfortable with them and can integrate them into their vocabulary."

All the works, except for two, were written in English and then translated to French.

The two exceptions included one work originally written in French and a piece in English which dealt specifically with the English language.

Corry is particularly pleased the feminist handbook is bilingual.

"For me, it's a gift to have the handbook in French. I am now able to communicate these ideas to French-speaking students," she said.

Corry is the coordinator of the Inter-Related Arts program and teaches Open Media and Women in Fine Arts courses.

Miriam Cooley, another handbook contributor, said the book could also be a boon to professors.

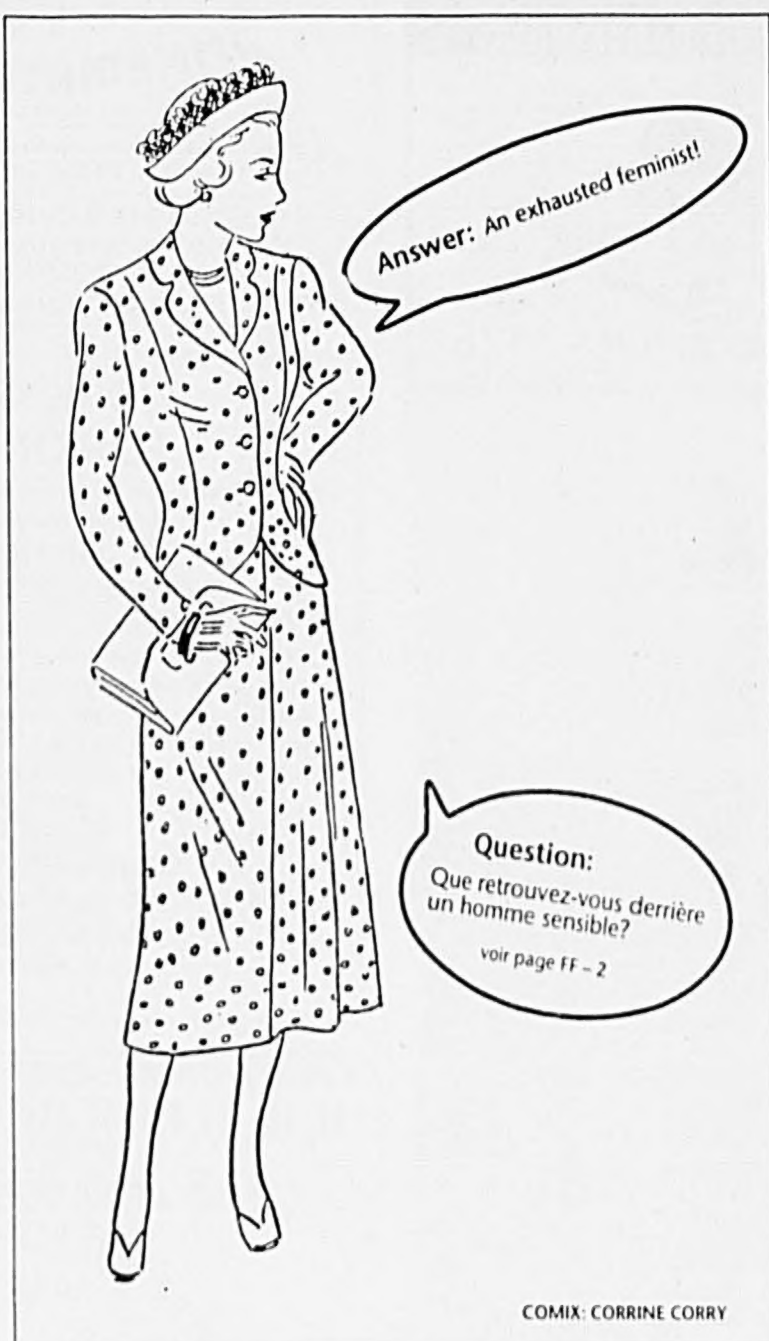
"I certainly hope that instructors will read it and give their teaching practices some consideration," she said.

Early last spring, before the handbook project had even started, the Permanent Review Committee on the Status of Women in Fine Arts ran into problems when their operating budget was cut by \$2000.

But the women working on the handbook wanted the project to continue and they scrounged for funding, facilities and volunteer help from all over the university.

"We have a lot of people to thank," said Cooley.

The committee printed 1000 copies of the Feminist Handbook, which is designed to look like a primary school notebook. They are selling the handbook for \$3 a piece.



"We made it for students and priced it for students," said Corry.

The women originally wanted to print 2000 copies but could not because of budgetary restraints. Money raised from the handbook sales will be used to help pay for the printing of the second thousand, said Cooley.

McLaren said close to 150 of the 200 hundred copies they brought to the book launching were sold. And she said men bought as many copies as women.

Art Education student Linda Lok was pleased to see the Feminist Handbook on sale because she has been "studying feminist aesthetics since the 1980s" and the terms explained in the book are "a part of my repertoire."

The Feminist Handbook is aimed primarily at Concordia students but Corry said she would send copies of the book to friends and associates at other universities. Cooley plans to introduce the handbook at a conference on Art Education in Toronto next week-end.

NOTE: Ita Kendall was paid to typeset the Feminist Handbook but had no involvement in editorial aspects of the book.

Copies can be obtained from the Concordia Women's Centre at 2020 MacKay Street or from the Arts Supplies store in the Visual Arts Building at 1395 Boul. René Lesvesque West.



Ontario to offer degrees in midwifery

TORONTO (CUP) — Ontario will soon be the first province to offer a university degree in midwifery.

The degree will require four years of study, culminating in a bachelor of midwifery degree, said Elliot Gold, communications director for the province's health ministry.

Practicing midwives will not have to complete the entire program, he said. Their skills will be assessed and they may only have to attend a short period to upgrade.

He said the ministry of colleges and universities is accepting submissions for the location of the program. The site will be announced in the spring of 1992, with the program slated to begin in 1993.

"We'll pick the university that offers the program best," he said.

But with the accreditation comes regulation, said Gold. Midwives have been self-governing and regulation will give them some credibility in the mainstream, he said.

The provisions include a college of midwives which will regulate their members, and a disciplinary panel.

Helen McDonald, midwife and midwifery coordinator for the Ministry of Health, said regulating the profession will give midwives a sense of security.

Black students' proposals rejected by York law school

by Trevor Burnett

TORONTO (CUP) — A York University law group demanding an end to systemic racism has presented a wide-ranging list of demands to the university's administration.

The Pan Afrikan Law Society, a student group at Osgoode Hall law school, outlined five demands for "substantive equality" in a letter to York president Harry Arthurs and the university senate sent in mid October.

"There is still total marginalization [at York] through white supremacist tendencies," explained Pan Afrikan Society member Miguna Miguna.

"For example, there is no mention in the York curriculum of the relationship of Africans and the law which sees Africans as chattel. The law is biased and racist and there is no respect of our history or struggle."

Miguna said the group's key concerns include the lack of student involvement in the decision-making process; Osgoode's Eurocentric curriculum; and the low numbers of faculty or students of African descent at Osgoode.

Members are also concerned that there is only one black professor at Osgoode; no courses dealing directly with African issues; and no courses dealing with Canada's indigenous peoples.

In late October Osgoode dean Jim Macpherson met with members of

The Pan Afrikan Society and gave them a letter telling the group to address their concerns to the appropriate administrative bodies. Pan Afrikan Society member Livingston Wedderburn called the letter a "diplomatic fuck off."

"He wants to lose us in administrative brouhaha by having us go to these different committees," said Wedderburn.

In his letter, Macpherson assured the Pan Afrikan Society of Osgoode's commitment to broadening its admissions base and promoting "diversity in the ranks of the faculty."

But Miguna the commitment isn't there.

The Pan Afrikan Society also wants the law school to replace its grading practices with pass or fail evaluations.

"Pass/fail will minimize bias and acknowledge the fact that objectivity in grading is a fallacy intended to perpetrate political, gender and cultural prejudices," the Pan Afrikan Society proposal states.

But law professor Kent McNeil said he does not believe the grading system is culturally biased. He also said a pass/fail system is a bad idea.

"The job market for (recent graduates) is very competitive," he said. "Employers would be apprehensive because they wouldn't know if it's a high pass or a low pass and they might not want to take the chance."

According to Wedderburn, Yale's law school uses the pass/fail system.

Osgoode associate dean Neil Brooks said the dean's role is largely administrative, and The Pan Afrikan Society should take their concerns elsewhere.

"The Dean has zero power in terms of who gets hired curriculum or methods of grading. The Dean would have to go through the committees and then the faculty councils."

Miguna said he disagrees. "If [Macpherson] felt these demands were important, he would do something."